The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 4 and 7 have been amended.

In the claims:

1. (Original) A method for requesting a consistent state in a computing environment using a first thread, the computing environment including multiple threads, the multiple threads including the first thread, comprising:

acquiring a consistent state lock using the first thread;

identifying substantially all threads that are inconsistent, the inconsistent threads being included in the multiple threads;

altering the state of the substantially all threads that are inconsistent to a consistent state;

notifying the first thread when the state of the substantially all threads that are inconsistent have been altered to be consistent; and

releasing the consistent state lock using the first thread.

2. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1 further comprising:

performing a garbage collection after releasing the consistent state lock using the first thread.

3. (Original) A method as recited in claim 2 further comprising:

notifying the substantially all threads that have been altered to be consistent that the garbage collection has been performed.

4 (Currently Amended) An apparatus for requesting a consistent state in a computing environment using a first thread, the computing environment including multiple threads, the multiple threads including the first thread, the ~~method~~ **apparatus** comprising:

a means for acquiring a consistent state lock using the first thread;

a means for identifying substantially all threads that are inconsistent, the inconsistent threads being included in the multiple threads;

a means for altering the state of the substantially all threads that are inconsistent to a consistent state;

a means for notifying the first thread when the state of the substantially all threads that are inconsistent have been altered to be consistent; and

a means for releasing the consistent state lock using the first thread.

5. (Original) An apparatus as recited in claim 4 further comprising:
a means for performing a garbage collection after releasing the consistent state lock using the first thread.

6. (Original) An apparatus as recited in claim 5 further comprising:
a means for notifying the substantially all threads that have been altered to be consistent that the garbage collection has been performed.

7. (Currently Amended) A computer product for requesting a consistent state in a computing environment using a first thread, the computing environment including multiple threads, the multiple threads including the first thread, **the computer product** comprising **computer readable media including**:

computer code for acquiring a consistent state lock using the first thread;

computer code for identifying substantially all threads that are inconsistent, the inconsistent threads being included in the multiple threads;

computer code for altering the state of the substantially all threads that are inconsistent to a consistent state;

computer code for notifying the first thread when the state of the substantially all threads that are inconsistent have been altered to be consistent; and

computer code for releasing the consistent state lock using the first thread.; and

~~a computer readable medium that stores the computer codes.~~

8. (Original) A computer product as recited in claim 7 further comprising:

computer code for performing a garbage collection after releasing the consistent state lock using the first thread.

9. (Original) A computer product as recited in claim 8 further comprising:

computer code for notifying the substantially all threads that have been alteredto be consistent that the garbage collection has been performed.